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Bermuda. — The account of the Bermuda Islands by Professor A. E. Verrill¹ already issued in the *Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Science* has been published by the author as a separate volume. After a general description of the islands, their physiography and meteorology are considered and this is followed by a lengthy description of the changes in fauna and flora due to man. The geology and marine zoölogy will appear in another volume. The body of information thus brought together will be invaluable to the future student of these interesting islands.

Morgan on Evolution and Adaptation.² — A new book on evolution might at first thought seem superfluous, in view of the already enormous literature on this subject, but advancement in knowledge calls for the presentation of fundamental principles in new lights, and no one who examines this book will find it wanting in food for thought. The general reader will find in it a convenient summary of the older views and discussions about evolution, with extensive quotations from the classical writings of Darwin, Weismann, and others. The new point of view, which especially interests the student and justifies the volume in his eyes, is that taken by Bateson (1893) in his *Materials for the Study of Variation*, and by deVries (1901-3) in his *Mutationstheorie*. From this standpoint evolution is not a continuous but a discontinuous process, in which advance is made by distinct steps. New species do not arise by the slow cumulation of fluctuating individual variations in a particular direction, but are born full fledged. A new species thus produced, which deVries calls a mutation, differs from the parental species at first, perhaps, in only a single respect. It possesses some new character not seen in the parents, or it lacks altogether some character possessed by the parents. It breeds true to its own distinctive character, if separated from the parent species, or if not so separated may interbreed freely with it. But when such interbreeding occurs the offspring fall into two distinct classes, one resembling each parent form. Natural selection now comes into operation to decide, not between one individual and another, but between the two specific forms, that one being favored which is best adapted to its environment, the other being eliminated, or possibly being allowed to survive in a *different* envi-

¹ Verrill, A. E. *The Bermuda Islands*. New Haven, published by the author, 1902, 8vo, x + 548 pp., 38 pls.

² Morgan, T. H., *Evolution and Adaptation*. New York, Macmillan, 1903. 8vo, 410 pp.